

Message Text

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ATTN PARIS FOR MARK PRATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, XC, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 8 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. VIETNAM

SRV RENEWS DEMAND THAT US PROVIDE ECON AID FOR POST-WAR
RECONSTRUCTION. ADDRESSING BANGKOK ESCAP MEETING, VIET
DEP FONMIN HOANG BICH SON THANKED THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH
HAVE GIVEN AID, EXPRESSING REGRET "THAT THOSE WHO ARE
THE ORIGINAL CAUSE...CONTINUE TO TURN A DEAF EAR...SEEKING
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TO AVOID THEIR OBLIGATIONS TO CONTRIBUTE TO HEALING THE
WOUNDS OF WAR..." (REUTER BANGKOK).

2. VIETNAM/CAMBODIA

NYT RUNS AFP ACCOUNT BY GROUP FRENCH JOURNALISTS WHO
VISITED CONFLICT, SAW VIETS REPELLING ATTACK BY BAND
CAMBODIANS. IN VISITS TO MIL AREAS IN THUONG PHUOC, GROUP
REPORTS IT SAW CAMBODIANS HAVE DISORGANIZED PEASANT LIFE,
VIET ARMY APPARENTLY ON DEFENSE "CONTRARY TO SOME REPORTS."

SAID THEY TRAVELED MOTORBOAT W/ARMED ESCORT OF VIET SOLDIERS, SAW 2 CAMBODIAN TEENAGE PRISONERS.

3. PHILIPPINES

FOLLOWING HER CAPTURE IN RAID LAST NOV, JULIET SISON, WIFE OF DETAINED CHRMN UNDERGROUND PHILS COMMUNIST PARTY, PLEADED NOT GUILTY TUES TO SUBVERSION CHARGES IN MIL COURT (WP MANILA).

4. AUSTRALIA

DEP PM ANTHONY TOLD PARLIAMENT TUES THAT AUSTRALIA MUST BRING MORE URANIUM MINES INTO OPERATION TO FULFILL EXISTING EXPORT CONTRACTS-MAKING DEVELOPMENT RANGER MINE IN NORTHERN TERRITORY ALL MORE IMPORTANT (REUTER CANBERRA 3/7).

5. CHINA

PRC 3/7 PUBLISHED NEW CONSTITUTION WHICH REPORTEDLY STRENGTHENS FREEDOM OF SPEECH/INCREASES POWERS OF PARLIAMENT IN RELATION TO CCP. ANOTHER STRIKING FEATURE IS UNCLASSIFIED

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THAT LATEST DOCUMENT BASED LARGELY ON '54 CONSTITUTION/ GIVES BACK TO CITIZENS MANY RIGHTS SINCE DROPPED--FOR INSTANCE, RIGHT TO DEFENSE IN TRIAL/ETHNIC MINORITIES' RIGHTS TO PRESERVE OWN CUSTOMS. IN PRESENTING DRAFT CONSTITUTION 3/1, VICE-CHRMN YEH CHIEN-YING SAID W/ REMOVAL GANG OF FOUR, CHINA MUST "ENERGETICALLY REVIVE"/"CARRY FORWARD OUR DEMOCRATIC TRADITION" (PRITCHETT, REUTER PEKING 3/7; NYT).

MATHEWS (WP HK) NOTES NPC FOR 1ST TIME EVER HAS WRITTEN INTO CHINA'S CONSTITUTION COMMITMENT TO ENCOURAGE BIRTH CONTROL. ALSO REPORTS SOME OF CITIZENS' RIGHTS RESTORED INCLUDE: (1) FREEDOM TO ENGAGE IN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH/ ARTISTIC-CULTURAL ACTIVITIES; (2) FOR WORKERS, RIGHT TO REST; (3) RIGHT OF CITIZENS TO MAKE COMPLAINTS ABOUT INEFFICIENT/ARROGANT STATE OFFICIALS; (4) SECRET BALLOT.

ISAACS (SUN HK) REPORTS NEW CONSTITUTION PUTS END TO MAOIST DOCTRINE OF "CONTINUED REVOLUTION." IN '75 CONSTITUTION, THIS THEORY CONTAINED IN PREAMBLE BUT NOTES NEW DOCUMENT DROPS ENTIRE CLAUSE, ALONG W/MUCH ELSE REFLECTING RADICAL MAOIST IDEOLOGY. SAYS, AS WHOLE, NEW CONSTITUTION REFLECTS CONCERN FOR ORDERLY ADMINISTRATION/DISCIPLINE/ECON DEVELOPMENT. AS SUBSTITUTE FOR SECTION DEALING W/CONTINUED REVOLUTION, NEW DOCUMENT SAYS PRC MUST ENDEAVOR CREATE POL SITUATION IN WHICH THERE ARE CENTRALISM/DEMOCRACY, DISCIPLINE/FREEDOM, UNITY OF

WILL/PERSONAL EASE OF MIND AND LIVELINESS.

MATHEWS (LAT HK 3/5) REPORTS ROMAN CATHOLIC/PROTESTANT CLERGYMEN WHO DROPPED FROM SIGHT DURING CR, REAPPEARED IN PEKING AS DELS TO CPPCC. NOTES "PD" ARTICLE LISTED 16 RELIGIOUS LEADERS AMONG NEARLY 2,000 DELS TO CONF.

6. JAPAN

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CAB RECOMMENDED 3/7 PRES CARTER TAKE RETALIATORY ACTION AGAINST "JAPAN AIRLINES" CARGO SERVICES BECAUSE OF GOJ'S RESTRICTIONS ON US "FLYING TIGER" LINE. CAB URGING PRES CUT JAL ALL-CARGO SERVICES BETWN TOKYO/SAN FRANCISCO BY THREE FLIGHTS PER WEEK IN EACH DIRECTION (REUTER 3/7; SULLIVAN, WP).

MALCOLM (NYT TOKYO) REPORTS GOJ/BUSINESS COMMUNITY EXPRESS MOUNTING CONCERN THAT YEN'S SHARP RISE THIS WK (TO 235 TO DOL) POSES INCREASING THREAT TO NATL ECON GROWTH TARGETS TO WHICH PM FUKUDA COMMITTED. FUKUDA REPORTEDLY ON 3/7 ORDERED TOP FINANCIAL OFFICERS BEGIN URGENT STUDY HOW COUNTER YEN'S FURTHER APPRECIATION/MINIMIZE DOMESITC ECON IMPACT.

ACCORDING UK TRADE SECY DELL, JAPAN HAS AGREED LIMIT AUTO SHIPMENTS TO UK. THIS WILL ENABLE UK MANUFACTURERS INCREASE DOMESTIC SALES (WSJ LONDON).

GILMORE STEEL CORP REPORTED TO TELL INTL TRADE COMM 3/7 IT MIGHT HAVE CLOSE PORTLAND (ORE) FACILITIES IF JAPANESE STEEL MILLS ALLOWED CONTINUE OFFERING CARBON PLATE STEEL AT PRICES BELOW COST. GILMORE APPEARED BEFORE ITC IN EFFORT PROVE PRICE CUTTING BY FIVE JAPANESE PRODUCERS RESULTED IN SERIOUS ECON IMPACT. JAPANESE CONCERNS DEFERRED OFFERING TESTIMONY UNTIL SECOND HEARING, SCHEDULED 3/16 (AP SEATTLE NYT).

JAPANESE HOUSE OF REPS 3/7 APPROVED BUDGET FOR YR BEGINNING APRIL 1 TOTALING 145 BIL DOLS--AN INCREASE OF 20 PCT OVER ORIGINAL ESTIMATE FOR CURRENT YR. GOJ AIMING FOR 7 PCT GROWTH RATE UNDER NEW BUDGET (REUTER TOKYO 3/7).

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TOMAE ARAKAWA, FORMER IMPERIAL ARMY CAPTAIN, REPORTED TO BE SEARCHING FOR NAMES OF 8 US SOLDIERS KILLED IN WWII CRASH OF B-29 BOMBER. ARAKAWA WANTS INSCRIBE THEM ON MONUMENT DEDICATED TO US-JAPAN FRIENDSHIP (AP TOKYO WP).

7. KOREA

IN 5TH DAY QUESTIONING BY HOUSE ETHICS CMTE, TONGSUN PARK SAID HE NEVER REPORTED TO PRES PARK ON MONEY HE GAVE US CONGRESSMEN, THAT HE NEVER WAS "INVOLVED IN SOUTH KOREAN LOBBYING." ANOTHER HOUSE PANEL--INTL RELS CMTE--REPORTEDLY WILL DISCLOSE DETAILS NEXT WK ON WHAT US INTELLIGENCE FOUND OUT ABOUT ALLEGED CONVERSATIONS BETWN PARK/PARK CHUNG HEE IN "BLUE HOUSE" (AP, WP/SUN).

8. ASEAN

FONMIN ROMULO ANNOUNCED 3/8 THAT PRES CARTER MAY TAKE PART IN 2ND ROUND DIALOGUE BETWN US/ASEAN SET FOR WASHINGTON IN JULY. AT PRESS CONF W/OTHER ELECTION CANDIDATES, ROMULO SAID PHILS HAS BEEN ASKED PROVIDE MINISTERIAL LEVEL DEL FOR TALKS, WHICH WILL CONTINUE DIALOGUE ON PROMOTION US INVEST IN ASEAN COUNTRIES/WIDENING TRADE PROSPECTS IN US. INDUSTRY SECY PATERNO SAID ASEAN MINISTERS WOULD PROBABLY MEET ABOUT 6 WKS BEFORE WASHINGTON GATHERING TO WORK OUT PRECISE DISCUSSION TOPICS (REUTER MANILA).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

9. INDOCHINA REFUGEES

LAT'S MCARTHUR (BANGKOK 3/5) DOES PIECE ON EFFECTS THAILAND'S NEW POLICY OF NOT ACCEPTING "ECONOMIC" REFUGEES. SAYS PM KRIANGSAK HAS ASSURED INTL REFUGEE OFFICIALS/ UNCLASSIFIED

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ASST SECY DERIAN THAT NEW DIRECTIVES WOULD NOT DENY ANY REFUGEE ASYLUM, BUT MCARTHUR SAYS "THIS IS NOT PROVING TO BE THE CASE." NOTES UNHCR ACCEPTED NEW REGS ON ASSURANCE THEY WOULD NOT BE APPLIED TO BOAT PEOPLE. BUT SAYS ALONG MEKONG BORDER/ON COAST LOCAL OFFICIALS SHOWING "INCREASING CALLOUSNESS" TOWARD REFUGEES. CITES INCIDENTS OF BOATS BEING SENT BACK TO SEA/RECENT CASES OF RAPE/ ARRIVING REFUGEES BEING STRIPPED OF ALL VALUABLES.

MCARTHUR SAYS PROBLEM HAS ACQUIRED NEW DIMENSIONS/IS DAILY GROWING MORE SERIOUS. QUOTES OFFICIALS W/LONG EXPERIENCE THAT END OF FLOW IS NOT IN SIGHT, THAT 18 MONTHS AGO US WAS PHASING OUT ITS REFUGEE OPRN/NOW HAS SENT TROUBLE SHOOTER TOM BARNES TO MANAGE REVIVED PROGRAM.

MCARTHUR CITES STUDY BARNES ORDERED TO DETERMINE MOTIVES OF REFUGEES, PARTICULARLY FROM VN. SAYS YOUNGER REFUGEES

OFTEN FLEEING TO ESCAPE DRAFT/REHABILITATION CAMPS,

BECAUSE BEING REFUSED UNIV ADMISSION/DISCOURAGED AT LACK OF JOBS. SAYS OLDER REFUGEES FEAR BEING SENT NEW ECON ZONES, RESENT CONFISCATION PROPERTY/DECREASED RICE RATIONS/ABSENCE BLACK MKT, SEE LITTLE HOPE FOR THEIR CHILDREN. SAYS STUDY CONCLUDES PROSPECTS ARE THAT LIFE WILL BECOME MORE DIFFICULT IN FUTURE, THAT COMMUNIST EFFORTS IMPOSE NEW SYSTEM ON PEOPLE ONLY BEGINNING.

MCARTHUR SAYS US OFFICIALS RELUCTANT PREDICT ULTIMATE DIMENSIONS OF PROBLEM BECAUSE THEY MIGHT FRIGTHEN CONGRESS WHICH MUST PASS ON ALREADY UNPOPULAR REFUGEE PROGRAMS. CONTENDS LAOTIANS PRESENT BIGGEST PROBLEM, QUOTING "INTL RESCUE CMTE" THAT BY APPLYING USUAL CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION "WE CONTINUE TO DENY THE HIDDEN UNCLASSIFIED

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AND PERVASIVE CHARACTER OF THE US ROLE IN THE SECRET WAR IN LAOS." SAYS CMTE IS LOBBYING FOR LONG RANGE REFUGEE POLICY, THAT DIPLOS FROM ASEAN/W NATIONS SEE SUCH POLICY AS "ESSENTIAL" TO ADOPTION MORE LIBERAL ATTITUDES TOWARD REFUGEES.

10. CHINA

MORITZ (CSM HK) SAYS HUA KUO-FENG, IN HIS REPORT TO NPC, INDICATED PRC WILL PURSUE FOLLOWING FONPOL APPROACHES: (1) WILL CONTINUE CONFRONTATION W/SOVIETS WHO ARE ACCUSED OF BRINGING BILAT RELS TO LOW POINT. HOWEVER, IF SOVIETS CHOOSE REDUCE TENSIONS/FORCES ALONG BORDER, CHINA WILL FOLLOW SUIT; (2) DESPITE FUNDAMENTAL US/PRC DIFFERENCES, TWO COUNTRIES SHARE "QUITE A FEW POINTS IN COMMON." HOWEVER, NORMALIZATION WILL BE DEPENDENT ON US SEVERING W/TAIWAN; (3) PRC UNDERSCORED AIM OF LIBERATING ISLAND. HUA CALLED UPON PLA TO MAKE ALL PREPARATIONS NECESSARY FOR LIBERATION; (4) TOWARD NON-COMMUNIST ASIAN NATIONS/ASEAN/INDIA, PRC'S DESIRE IS IMPROVE RELS AS COUNTER TO SOVIETS; (5) CHINA EAGER FOR EARLY CONCLUSION PFT W/JAPAN.

OKA (CSM LONDON) REPORTS EUROPE/JAPAN VITALLY INTERESTED IN HOW US-PRC TIES EVOLVE. SAYS ANY COOLING OF RELS WOULD HAVE, AS ITS COROLLARY, WARMING OF SINO-SOVIET RELS. SAYS EUROPEANS INTERESTED IN SELLING PRC ARMS BECAUSE THIS WOULD AID NATO. PRC STRENGTHENED, ARGUMENT GOES, COULD MORE CONFIDENTLY FACE SOVIETS. PROPONENTS THIS THEORY ALSO BELIEVE WOULD TAKE DECADE BEFORE PRC COULD "LIBERATE" TAIWAN. THUS, ROC SHOULD USE TIME NOW TO SEEK ACCOMMODATION W/MAINLAND. SAYS EUROPEANS FEEL ONCE PANAMA CANAL TREATIES CONCLUDED, US SHOULD DIRECT ENERGIES INTO ENCOURAGING ROC MAKE SUCH ACCOMMODATION.

11. VIETNAM

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WSTAR EDIT (3/7) FAVORS ENFORCING FRANK ("DECENT INTERVAL") SNEPP'S CONTRACT W/CIA NOT TO DISCLOSE CIA SECRETS/PUBLISH W/O PRIOR CIA APPROVAL. NOTES THAT, DEPENDING ON WHOSE "SLOGANEERING" ONE HEEDS, SNEPP IS EITHER HERO ("MOST FAMOUS WHISTLE-BLOWER OF ALL") OR SCOUNDREL WHO CASUALLY VIOLATES CONTRACT FOR PERSONAL SERVICES. SAYS NEITHER CHARACTERIZATION CONVINCING, PUBLIC'S RIGHT TO KNOW COULD HAVE BEEN SATISFIED THRU SUCH MECHANISMS AS FOI ACT.

ACCORDING STAR, "INSTANT HISTORY...HAS SOMETHING TO BE SAID FOR IT, BUT NOT A GREAT DEAL"--THAT IT TYPICALLY LACKS PERSPECTIVE/JUDICIOUS SIFTING OF HISTORIANS, OMITTS RELEVANT TESTIMONY OF OTHERS. SAYS "FRESH, SENSATIONAL, ONE-SIDED, IT PROBABLY CONTRIBUTES MORE TO THE UNSETTLING CYNICISM SO PERVASIVE TODAY THAN TO DEEP PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT THE US WAS REALLY UP TO IN SAIGON."

NEVERTHELESS, STAR OPINES NOT NECESSARILY WISE TO SUE SNEPP, SINCE HE WAS "MORE ANIMATED BY ZEAL THAN BY PROFIT-SEEKING." CONCLUDES THAT THOSE WHO ENLIST IN SENSITIVE GOVT AGENCIES/UNDERTAKE TO SILENCE THEIR WHISTLES ARE UNCONVINCING WITNESSES WHEN THEY CRY OUT AGAINST AGENCIES THAT SEEK HOLD THEM TO SILENCE. CONTENTS FREEDOM TO BLOW ONE'S WHISTLE IS "HARDLY AT ISSUE" SINCE SNEPP VOLUNTARILY ACCEPTED LIMITATION ON THAT FREEDOM WHEN JOINED CIA. OBSERVES THAT THOSE WHO FEEL STRONGLY AS SNEPP ABOUT 1ST AMENDMENT OUGHT NOT SIGN CONTRACTS THAT LIMIT THEM. VANCE

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